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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/620,488 | 07/15/2003 | Ravi L. Sahita | 5038-248 | 9072 |
| 32231 | 7590 | 02/21/2008 | | |
| MARGER JOHNSON & MCCOLLOM, P.C. - Intel 210 SW MORRISON STREET, SUITE 400 PORTLAND, OR 97204 | | | | |
| | | | EXAMINER | |
| | | | ENG, DAVID Y | |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 2155 | |
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 10/620,488 | Applicant(s) SAHITA, RAVI L. | |
| | Examiner DAVID Y. ENG | Art Unit 2155 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 November 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 16-26 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 and 27-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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DETAILED ACTION

Specification

The summary of the invention submitted on 11/27/2007 is no different than the claims. The summary should point out the advantages of the invention or how it solves problems previously existent in the prior art and may include a statement of the object of the invention. A summary in accordance with 37 CFR 1.73 and MPEP § 608.01(d) is requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112, 2nd paragraph

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 10-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The terms "capable" and "can" are vague and indefinite because it is not positive recitation. See claim 10 and 12 for example.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-11, 13-15 and 27-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Gai (USP 6,892,237).

See at least the abstract, Figures 2-5 and the description in column 6 line 16 to column 16 line 20. Gai teaches:

Claims 1, 27

A method of operating a network processor the method comprising:

Writing (storing entries into the CAM), to a shared memory (324 fig. 3) accessible by multiple packet processing engines (252, 254 Figure 2), a dynamic packet rule set (500 Fig. 5), each rule specifying a packet offset (516), a data pattern (514), and an action code (508);

writing, to an instruction store for the packet processing engines, execution instructions referencing the dynamic packet rule set (328 Fig. 3); and

on at least one of the packet processing engines, while processing a packet and in response to the execution instructions, loading a first packet rule from the dynamic packet rule set, comparing packet data at the packet offset specified in the first packet rule to the data pattern specified in the first packet rule, and, when the comparison indicates a match, performing an action indicated by the action code specified in the first packet rule (operation of the pattern matching engine 260 in Figure 2 with the entries shown in Figures 4 and 5).

Claim 10

An integrated circuit comprising:

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a local memory (320 fig. 3) capable of storing a rule table, the rule table organized with entries comprising a packet offset, a data pattern, and an action (Fig. 5);

a packet data queue (packet buffer 258 Fig. 3) to receive packet data;

a rule fetch unit (304, 322) to fetch rules from the rule table;

a packet data fetch unit (barrel shifter 308 and 312) to fetch a segment of packet data from the packet data queue, based on the packet offset fetched by the rule fetch unit;

match circuitry (304) to compare the packet data segment fetched by the packet data fetch unit with the data pattern fetched by the rule fetch unit; and

an action unit to perform the action (decoder 302 and traffic flow controller 352) fetched by the rule fetch unit when the match circuitry indicates a match between the compared packet data segment and data pattern.

Claims 2, 3

Masking is inherent in CAM.

Claims 4, 11, 28

See 330 in Figure 3.

Claims 5, 9, 15,

The "wherein clauses" merely consist of non-functional descriptive material.

Claims 6, 7, 13, 29, 30

All the entries in Gai's CAM are meant to be accessed and searched.

Claim 8, 14

See "valid" in 406 and 510.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 16-26

Claims 16-26 are allowed.

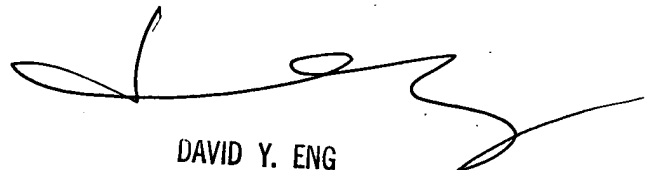
Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 1-30 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DAVID Y. ENG whose telephone number is 571-272-3984. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 8AM to 3PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, SALEH NAJJAR, can be reached on 571-272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



DAVID Y. ENG
PRIMARY EXAMINER